P24873.A03

REMARKS

By the above amendment, the claims have been amended to ensure that the

language recited therein is not interpreted as "means-plus-function" or "steps-of"

language.

Any amendments to the claims which have been made in this amendment, and

which have not been specifically noted to overcome a rejection based upon the prior art,

should be considered to have been made for a purpose unrelated to patentability, and no

estoppel should be deemed to attach thereto.

If there should be any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned

at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

Yukio FUKAI et al.

Bruce H. Bernstein

Reg. No. 29,027

April 30, 2004

GREENBLUM & BERNSTEIN, P.L.C.

1950 Roland Clarke Place

Reston, VA 20191

(703) 716-1191

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